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NOMINATION OF THE MEMBERS TO THE HIGH-LEVEL COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS AND OFFICIALS

Report of the Executive Director

1. In its decision on the constitution of the High-level Committee of Ministers and Officials established pursuant to decision 19/32 adopted at its nineteenth session on 4 April 1997, the Governing Council decided that the members of the High-level Committee of Ministers and Officials shall be elected according to the following pattern of geographical distribution:

(a) Ten seats for African States;

(b) Eight seats for Asian States;

(c) Four seats for Eastern European States;

(d) Six seats for Latin American and Caribbean States; and

(e) Eight seats for Western Europe and other States.

2. The Council also decided that the High-level Committee of Ministers and Officials should be constituted in accordance with the following procedure:

(a) The coordinators of the respective regional groups would expeditiously undertake consultations within their groups with a view to agreeing on nominations of members to the High-level Committee of Ministers and Officials and would communicate those nominations to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme by 15 May 1997;

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(b) Upon receipt of the nominations, the Executive Director should accordingly notify all States members of the United Nations and its specialized agencies; and

(c) Those nominated would be empowered to function on a provisional basis as members of the High-level Committee of Ministers and Officials until the next special or regular session of the Governing Council, whichever occurred earlier, where the nominations would be formally confirmed by the Council as elected.

3. In accordance with the above-mentioned Governing Council decision, the Executive Director, on 8 April 1997, sent a letter to all coordinators of the respective regional groups inviting them to expeditiously undertake consultations within their groups, to nominate members to the High-level Committee of Ministers and Officials and communicate those nominations to the Executive Director by 15 May 1997.

4. Prior to the first meeting of the High-level Committee of Ministers and Officials, held in New York on 28 June 1997, the Executive Director received a total of 25 nominations: 10 from African States; eight from Asian States; four from Eastern European States; and three from Western European and Other States. At the first meeting of the High-level Committee of Ministers and Officials, the Group of Latin American and the Caribbean States announced the names of the six nominees from the Group. On 17 October 1997, the coordinator of the group of Western European and Other States informed the Executive Director of the five outstanding nominees from that Group.

5. A list of States nominated by the respective regional groups to the members of the High-level Committee of Ministers and Officials was made available at the second meeting of the High-level Committee of Ministers and Officials, held in Nairobi from 2 to 4 March 1998, as document UNEP/HLC/2/INF/6 and Corr.1. The list is reproduced in the annex to the present document.

Suggested action by the Governing Council

6. The Governing Council may wish to formally confirm as elected by the Council the States nominated by the respective regional groups as members to the High-level Committee of Ministers and Officials.

Annex

LIST OF NOMINEES OF THE HIGH-LEVEL COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS AND OFFICIALS 1/

REGION	NOMINEES
AFRICAN GROUP (10)	ALGERIA
	BURUNDI
	DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
	EGYPT
	KENYA
	NIGERIA
	SENEGAL
	UGANDA
	ZAMBIA
	ZIMBABWE
ASIAN GROUP (8) 2/	BANGLADESH
	CHINA
	INDONESIA
	IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF)
	JAPAN
	PAKISTAN
	PHILIPPINES
	REPUBLIC OF KOREA
EASTERN EUROPEAN GROUP (4)	CZECH REPUBLIC
	POLAND
	ROMANIA
	RUSSIAN FEDERATION
LATIN AMERICAN AND THE CARIBBEAN GROUP (6)	ARGENTINA
	BAHAMAS
	CUBA
	EL SALVADOR
	MEXICO
	PERU

REGION	NOMINEES
WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS GROUP (8)	AUSTRALIA
	AUSTRIA
	FINLAND 3/
	ITALY
	NETHERLANDS
	SWITZERLAND
	UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Notes

1/ In keeping with paragraph 2 (c) of the decision on the constitution of the High-level Committee of Ministers and Officials established pursuant to decision 19/32 adopted by the Governing Council a its nineteenth session, the nominated Governments "will be empowered to function on a provisional basis as members of the High-level Committee o Ministers and Officials until the next special or regular session of the Governing Council, whichever occurs earlier, where the nominations will b formally confirmed by the Council as elected".

2/ By decision of the Asian Group, the countries in this Group a nominated for the year 1997-1998 only.

3/ Finland will be replaced by Denmark in 1998.